




City of Cashmere

101 Woodring Street • Cashmere, WA 98815-1034
Business (509) 782-3513 • Fax (509) 782-2840

January 13, 1994


Mr. Doug Clausing, Section Supervisor
Washington State
Department of Ecology
3601 West Washington St.
Yakima, WA 98903-1164

Re: City of Cashmere Water Rights

Dear Mr. Clausing:

Enclosed is our application for additional water rights and a warrant for \$110.00. We are also including a copy of a letter that we have written to Senator George Sellar, Representative Clyde Ballard, and Representative Dale Foreman concerning this matter and a copy of our comprehensive water plan.

In section II of our water plan, we have determined future population and water needs. On page III-7 is an evaluation of our existing water rights. Our existing instantaneous (gallons per minute) water rights are adequate for our future needs, however, the following points of diversion changes are needed:

1. We request to close wells #3 (730-D) and #9 (7291-A) and transfer those rights, totaling 600 gpm, to our water treatment plant.
2. We request to reduce the water right at well #4 (731-D) from 400 gpm to 250 gpm and transfer 150 gpm to the water treatment plant.
3. We request to reduce the water right at well #10 (G4-25814C) to 200 gpm and transfer 200 gpm to the water treatment plant.

Our present water right of 800 acre feet per year from all sources is inadequate for present and future needs. Presently we need 960 acre feet per year and by the year 2012 we will need 1,800 acre feet.

S431918

The purpose of our application is to request the additional acre feet per year and changes in points of diversion. Thank you for any help you may give to us.

Sincerely,

David L. Simmer
City Superintendent

DLS/tsp



City of Cashmere

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January 4, 1994

Senator George Sellar
302 Legislative Building
P.O. Box 40412
Olympia, WA 98504-0412

Dear Senator Sellar:

I am writing to ask for your assistance in solving a problem in our community that has effects well beyond our boundaries.

The City of Cashmere has water rights amounting to 800 acre-feet per year and is presently withdrawing 917 acre-feet per year. In the next twenty years we are projecting our need to be 1800 acre-feet per year.

The City has always used water meters and in the last ten years has made system improvements to manage and use water more efficiently. During the 1970's we were pumping around 2.3 million gallons of water per day, during the summer, and now we have reduced that amount by 0.5 million gallons per day.

Our water rights were established over thirty years ago. Communities that did not use water meters and used more water were granted larger water rights.

The Department of Ecology cannot issue additional water rights from the Wenatchee River except ones that are interruptable. The interruption would take place when water was most needed, during the late summer. If they did grant additional rights it would further over-allocate water from the river and the department would be sued by Indian tribes and environmental groups.

As you are aware, we are required by the Growth Management Act to establish urban growth boundaries to accommodate population projections for the next twenty years. With the present water rights we cannot supply our existing population, not to mention future populations. For this reason Cashmere's future looks dim. We will be required to institute extraordinary conservation measures, such as waste water reuse and rationing of water for users such as Tree Top Inc. along with other fruit processors. This would be happening in spite of the fact that no conservation efforts or regulation of exempt wells would be required in areas surrounding our city.

S431918

I believe solutions for our problem and other water rights problems must take place in the State Legislature. This work will not be easy nor popular but must be done. The following is a list of water related issues that should be worked on.

1. Watershed studies are needed to determine how much water is needed for in-stream flows and what is left for other uses.
2. Irrigation Districts will tell you that they are not the problem, because they are not taking any more water than they did in the late 1800s or early 1900s. This would be correct if the population had not increased or we processed fruit in the same manner as those days.

The same orchardists that receive benefit from irrigation water also receive benefit from fruit processors that use more water, such as juice plants. Water can be delivered to orchards more efficiently than in those early days and could be allocated for the newer processing. Studies are needed to determine how much water is truly needed for fruit production and water rights adjusted accordingly.

3. Once orchards are converted to other development the water rights should be turned over to the government where the development takes place.
4. Cities also need to conserve water and use it efficiently. They need to know how much is available now and into the future, so that true growth management and conservation can take place.
5. Counties need to limit development around cities and the amount of available water should be one of the factors used when limits are imposed. Permits should be required and a water right for all wells (no exempt wells). A permit should be required for all surface water withdrawals.

We will appreciate any help you may give to us relating to this matter.

Sincerely

Keith W. Henning, D.C.
Mayor



City of Cashmere

101 Woodring Street • Cashmere, WA 98815-1034
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January 10, 1994

*not referred to
as yet.*

*Jim
Guthrie*

Representative Clyde Ballard
3rd Floor Legislative Building
P.O. Box 40623
Olympia, WA 98504-0623

Dear Representative Ballard:

I am writing to ask for your assistance in solving a problem in our community that has effects well beyond our boundaries.

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Sincerely



Keith W. Henning, D.C.
Mayor

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own
library
for



CITY OF CASHMERE

101 WOODRING ST. CASHMERE WA. 98815

509 782 3513



COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN

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